

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) MoC comprising a surface-area-to-mass ratio of between about 11.5 to about 14 m<sup>2</sup>/g and produced by heating a precursor material in a first heating zone to a first temperature in the presence of a reducing gas and a carbonizing gas and moving the precursor material to a second heating zone that is heated to a second temperature that is at least 100°C hotter than the first heating zone.
2. (Currently amended) Mo<sub>2</sub>C comprising a surface-area-to-mass ratio of between about 5 to about 11 m<sup>2</sup>/g and produced by heating a precursor material in a first heating zone to a first temperature in the presence of a reducing gas and a carbonizing gas and moving the precursor material to a second heating zone that is heated to a second temperature that is at least 100°C hotter than the first heating zone.
3. (New) MoC comprising a surface-area-to-mass ratio of between about 11.5 to about 14 m<sup>2</sup>/g.
4. (New) MoC of claim 3 wherein said surface-area-to-mass ratio is proportionate to a surface-area-to-mass ratio of a precursor material as measured in m<sup>2</sup>/g.
5. (New) Mo<sub>2</sub>C comprising a surface-area-to-mass ratio of between about 5 to about 11 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

6. (New)  $\text{Mo}_2\text{C}$  of claim 5 wherein said surface-area-to-mass ratio is proportionate to a surface-area-to-mass ratio of a precursor material as measured in  $\text{m}^2/\text{g}$ .